



Health & Safety Protocol and Guidelines for Day Camp and Youth Programs, Spring-Summer 2021

Introduction

Seacoast Science Center (SSC) believes that the safety of its visitors, program participants, and staff and volunteers is of paramount importance. Over 28 years, SSC has established a track record for putting the safety of its program participants first. We also believe that, in accordance with guidelines of the [State of New Hampshire's Stay at Home 2.0](#), it is important for SSC to continue to provide its trusted educational child care services Spring-Summer 2021.

Health and safety protocols have been put in place for infectious disease control and prevention during the COVID-19 pandemic. All procedures and protocols are developed with the best practices advanced by the [US Centers for Disease Control](#) and [NH Department of Health and Human Services](#) in mind. This document outlines, in detail, SSC's Camp and After School Programs, health and safety protocols, as well as specific measures that we believe are required to foster a safe and healthy program experience at the Seacoast Science Center and within Odiorne Point State Park (OPSP).

The Health and Safety Protocol and Guidelines in this document apply to the following programs (program descriptions follow):

Environmental Day Camp

CAMP GROUPS

Pre-K: Treks 4 Tots

Grades 4-5: Seafarers

Kindergarten: Periwinkles

Grades 6-8: Stewards

Grade 1: Sea Stars

Grades 9-12: Marine Biology Camp

Grades 2-3: Green Crabs

Nature Detectives After School Program

Camp Care

Marine Science Fellowship

Health and Safety Guidelines

1. Program participants or participants with parents or caregivers that exhibit COVID-19 symptoms or have come in known contact with someone tested positive for COVID-19, cannot attend SSC until after completion of the CDC recommended quarantine period.
2. SSC will establish a designated and isolated quarantine space for anyone developing COVID-19 symptoms while in attendance.
3. Daily health check-ins are required for all staff and program participants.
4. Programs will emphasize outdoor activities in lieu of indoor activities whenever possible.
5. When indoors, groups will be spread throughout the SSC facility (15,000 sq ft). All attendees and visitors age 2 and up, are required to wear masks while in the building.
6. Under the supervision of the Director of Camp and Programs, educators will ensure that all attendees practice infectious disease control hygiene measures at all times in SSC daycamp.
7. Programs for children up to grade 5 are grouped by age, with groups limited to 14 children with 2 counselors. Programs for grades 6 and up are also limited to 14 children with 2 counselors.
8. Program groups will honor social distancing guidelines. Attendees within a group will be allowed to be in closer proximity to one another; masks are required and physical contact is not allowed.
9. Should a counselor call out sick, a substitute will be assigned. That substitute will be trained in SSC safety protocol and will undergo requisite health screening upon arrival.
10. SSC commits to keep in close communication with all camp and youth program parents, notifying them of instances of sickness and potential or confirmed cases of COVID-19 in camp and youth programs or involving SSC staff.

TRAINING

SSC Staff and Educators will participate in safety protocol and procedures training in advance of Camp and Youth Programs, including:

- Infectious disease sanitation and proper use of PPE
- Recognition of potential COVID-19 symptoms and process for quarantining persons suspected of showing symptoms
- CPR and first aid
- Group distancing, both inside the building and outside
- Attendee drop-off and pick-up procedures
- Disinfection of program supplies
- Bathroom procedures, including disinfecting, cleaning and safe, respectful monitoring of children while they are in the bathroom

SSC CAMP AND YOUTH PROGRAM SPECIFIC INFECTIOUS DISEASE PROTOCOL

It is expected that program staff follow these protocols at all times:

- No interaction between the attendees and public while at SSC or within OPSP
- Focus on outdoor activities
- Isolate age groups from one another, both inside the building and out
- Trail routes and locations in OPSP will be chosen to avoid times they are heavily trafficked by OPSP visitors.
- Monitor program facilities sanitation
- Remain with same group for entire week
- Disinfect craft supplies before and after use
- Only allow 3 children in bathroom at one time
- Staff, including Counselors in Training must wear protective masks while inside the building and outside when appropriate social distance cannot be maintained.
- Adhere to the following drop off and pick up procedures:
 - Camp: Camper Drop-off between 8:30-9:00 am, Pick-up 3:00 pm
 - After-School Program: Drop-off 3:00 pm, Pick-up 5:30 pm
 - Attendees will be met at their vehicles at a designated location in the parking lot by an SSC staff member serving as a health screener. The health screener will wear appropriate PPE.
 - The screener will ask the following questions and record the answers for each camper and camper family:
 - *Have you or anyone in your family been in close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19?*
 - *Have you or anyone in your family had a fever or felt feverish in the last 72 hours?*
 - *Are you or anyone in your family experiencing any respiratory symptoms including a runny nose, sore throat, cough, or shortness of breath?*
 - *Are you or anyone in your family experiencing any new muscle aches or chills?*
 - *Have you or anyone in your family experienced any new change in your sense of taste or smell?*
 - Parents who answered “No” to all of the above questions will be told that their child(ren) may exit the vehicle.
 - The attendee’s temperature will be taken with a touchless thermometer and recorded along with the parent/caregiver’s replies to the health screening questions.
 - Attendees will be given hand sanitizer to use upon exiting the vehicle.
 - Parents/caregivers that answered “yes” to any of the screening questions will be instructed to remain in with their campers in the vehicle, leave the premises and seek medical advice.
 - Per EEOC and other pertinent guidelines, staff will maintain the confidentiality of health information.

- Late attendees: Parents arriving late will need to call the SSC Camp Director when they arrive at the designated drop off area in the parking lot. The Camp Director will dispatch the designated health screener to greet the child, and gather the daily health screening information so that the child may be safely escorted to their program group.

Should a attendee develop a fever over the course of the day:

- The attendee will be given suitable PPE and isolated in the designated quarantine space. The sick child will not be left alone in the isolation space.
- The attendee's parents or caregivers and SSC President will be notified immediately.
- All attendee's parents or caregivers with children in the current session would be notified by phone before the next camp day.
- Parents/caregivers arrive at the designated pick up location in the parking lot and remain inside their vehicle.
- SSC staff will ask the parent/caregiver which child(ren) they are picking up.
- The staff at the pickup location will radio the child's group and child(ren) will be escorted to the vehicle. Before entering the vehicle the child will be signed out as picked up by a designated responsible party.
- Attendees being picked up early must notify camp/youth program staff at drop off of the early pick up. Parents/caregivers will call or text Center from the parking lot and the child(ren) will be escorted to the vehicle by a staff program leader and be signed out as picked up by a designated responsible party.

SSC COMMUNICATIONS TO PARENTS OR CAREGIVERS

SSC commits to timely and transparent communications with its parents and guardians.

- All attendees who are sick or attendees from families that exhibit COVID-19 symptoms or have been exposed to persons known to have tested positive for COVID-19 will be told to remain home.
- All parents or caregivers with children in a session where a child becomes sick will be notified of the illness by phone.
- Parents or caregivers with children in sessions following a session where an attendee becomes sick will be notified by email of the instance of illness in a previous session in advance of their registered session.

DAILY SSC STAFF HEALTH SCREENING PER US CDC & NH DHHS PROTOCOL

All employees reporting for work will be screened for COVID-19 related symptoms as follows:

- A location will be identified and a staff member assigned who will screen each employee every day before they enter the work-place.

- Plans will be clearly communicated with employees.
- The person performing the screening will wear a cloth face covering/mask.
- The screener will ask the following questions:
 - *Have you or anyone in your family been in close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19?*
 - *Have you or anyone in your family had a fever or felt feverish in the last 72 hours?*
 - *Are you or anyone in your family experiencing any respiratory symptoms including a runny nose, sore throat, cough, or shortness of breath?*
 - *Are you or anyone in your family experiencing any new muscle aches or chills?*
 - *Have you or anyone in your family experienced any new change in your sense of taste or smell?*
- Each day upon arrival before their shift, the temperatures of all employees will be documented with a non-touch thermometer. Normal temperature should not exceed 100.0° F.

Should an employee exhibit COVID-19 symptoms, answer “yes” to any of the screening questions, or is found to have a fever in excess of 100.0° F, the SSC health screener will:

- Instruct the employee to leave the premises immediately and to seek medical advice.
- Notify SSC President and Vice President that an employee has been prevented from working because of potential COVID-19 symptoms or exposure.
- Per EEOC and other pertinent guidelines, SSC will maintain the confidentiality of employee health information. Stigma and discrimination in the workplace will be prevented. Determinations of health risk or health status will not be based on race or country of origin.

SSC WORKPLACE HYGIENE AND SANITATION

Seacoast Science Center strongly promotes the workplace safety standards advanced by the US CDC and NH DHHS in light of the COVID-19 including:

- Frequent hand hygiene and use of alcohol-based hand sanitizers when soap and water is not available.
- Disinfection of work stations, door handles and other high touch surfaces in the workplace.
- High touch areas in the SSC public space will be sanitized at least every two hours while in use.
- Practice physical distancing in the workplace for those times and situations where remote work is impossible.
- Wearing cloth face coverings and where appropriate protective disposable gloves.

Youth Program Descriptions

Environmental Day Camps

CAMP GROUPS

Pre-K: Treks 4 Tots

Kindergarten: Periwinkles

Grade 1: Sea Stars

Grades 2-3: Green Crabs

Grades 4-5: Seafarers

Grades 6-8: Stewards

Grades 9-12: Marine Biology Camp

SSC's Seaside Safari and Treks 4 Tots environmental day camp programs are fun-filled learning adventures that take advantage of the natural classroom just outside our doors in historic 135-acre Odiorne Point State Park. The Center's hands-on exhibits, scientific instruments, and teaching technology of the Gregg Interactive Learning Studio help to reinforce what campers learn outdoors. Lessons, activities, art projects, games, and stories combine for a full day of learning, excitement and fun. Seaside Safari and Treks 4 Tots camp sessions are held during regional school vacations and all summer long. Campers are grouped by grade and sessions are defined by date. Campers in grades K-5 have historically used the Sugden House as home base; however, in effort to social distance groups, groups will be spread throughout the building and, when weather allows, meet outdoors under the seaside function tent.. Camp groups will separate for activities throughout the day. Campers in grades 6-8 meet in the Gregg Interactive Learning Studio.

CAMP HOURS

Treks 4 Tots: (ages 4-5): Monday through Friday, 9am–3pm or half-day option, 9am-12pm

Seaside Safari (grades K-5): Monday through Friday, 9am–3pm

Stewards (grades 6-8): summers only; days and times vary

Marine Biology Camp for High School Students: summers only; days and times vary

Drop-off starts at 8:30am and continues until 9:30am. Pre-care is available from 7:30–8:30am and after-care from 3-5:30pm, for an additional fee. Neither are extensions of camp; it is supervised free time.

Nature Detectives After School Program Overview

The Nature Detectives After School Program provides a safe educational experience focused on outdoor exploration and scientific inquiry in the many habitats of Odiorne Point State Park, including the rocky shore, sandy shore, salt marsh, woods, and freshwater pond. Children will spend time engaging and connecting with their peers, asking questions about the natural world and making sensory-based, hands-on discoveries. Programming will vary on a daily basis, and will provide a critical supplement to your child's academic studies. A homework-time block of

30-45 minutes will be provided if requested, so children wishing to complete schoolwork may do so.

After School Program counselors have, or are working towards, a degree in environmental education, marine biology or a related science. They all have experience working with children.

Attendance is limited to 14 children per group with a staff-to-camper ratio of 2:14.

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM HOURS: Nature Detectives After School Program is offered by the 4-day week, Monday-Thursday, from 3-5:30 pm.

Camp Care

Held on Fridays, SSC Camp Care explores a different topic in natural sciences each week while integrating math, engineering, reading, writing, art and music, to add richness and age-appropriate academic rigor to the science content. Most activities will take place outdoors in the fields, forest, and tide pools of Odiorne Point State Park. While a portion of the day will be dedicated to lessons in environmental education, featuring nature's remarkable classroom just outside the doors of Seacoast Science Center, children will also have time available for school work, park exploration, and outdoor games. We will make every effort to accommodate your child's online school meeting needs if requested. Maximum of 12 students in group.

CAMP CARE HOURS: Camp Care is offered on Fridays only, 9:00am-3:00pm; after-care is available from 3:00-5:30pm.

Marine Science Fellowship

Marine Science Fellowship is a semester-long course designed to give high school sophomores, juniors, or seniors who are interested in the marine sciences an opportunity to expand their studies in a practical, supportive, resource-rich environment. Participants will conduct their own research project during the semester, explore career paths in the marine sciences, and have the opportunity to earn credit through their school. Marine Science Fellowship students must apply and be accepted into the program.

MARINE SCIENCE FELLOWSHIP HOURS: Saturdays, 10:00am-12:00pm, with an additional, flexible time commitment.